

AMERY REGULAR COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

August 7, 2019

The Amery City Council met on August 7, 2019 at City Hall – Council Chambers. Mayor, Paul Isakson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Clerk-Treasurer, Patty Bjorklund conducted Roll Call.

Present: Mayor, Paul Isakson. Alderpersons: Tim Strohbusch, Julie Riemenschneider, Rick Van Blaricom, Kris Vicker; Sarah Flanum and Chad Leonard (welcomed to the council at 5:30 p.m. after Oath of Office taken).

Absent: None.

Staff Present: City Administrator, Kim Moore; City Clerk-Treasurer, Patty Bjorklund; Chief of Police, Tom Marson; Sewer Plant Operator, Jeff Mahoney and Fire Chief, Dale Koehler.

Staff Absent: Library Director, Amy Stormberg

Others present: Members of the Public and Guests.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Mayor, Paul Isakson led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Public Hearing: The following items were presented at the Public Hearing.

- Proposed changes to Title 13 – Chapter 1 – Article H (Ordinance 18-2019) of the City of Amery Code of Ordinances pertaining to Signs, Canopies, Awnings and Billboards.
- Proposed changed to Title 13 – Chapter 1 – Article K (Ordinance 19-2019) of the City of Amery Code of Ordinances pertaining to Fences and Walls.
- Michael LaForce property located at 329 Deronda Street rezoned from R-1 Single-Family District to R-2 Residential Duplex Family Dwelling.
- First Baptist Church property located at 131 Broadway Street rezoned from R-1 Single-Family District to C-2 Central Business District and dedicate portions of property to the public.

*Motion by Council President, Strohbusch; seconded by Alderperson, Flanum to approve Ordinance #18-2019 *Signs, Canopies, Awnings and Billboards and Ordinance #19-2019 *Fences and Walls.*

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Motion carried.

Motion by Alderperson, Riemenschneider; seconded by Council President, Strohbusch to approve rezoning of Michael LaForce property at 329 Deronda Street from R-1 Single-Family District to R-2 Residential Duplex Family Dwelling.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Motion carried.

Motion by Alderperson, Riemenschneider; seconded by Alderperson, Van Blaricom to approve rezoning of First Baptist Church property located at 131 Broadway Street rezoned from R-1 Single-Family District to C-2 Central Business District and dedicate portions of property to the public.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes of the following: July 10, 2019 City Council Meeting; July 15, 2019 Downtown Façade Committee Meeting; July 22, 2019 Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting; July 23, 2019 Finance Committee Meeting; July 25, 2019 Plan Commission Meeting; July 26, 2019 Special Council Meeting and August 2, 2019 Finance Committee Meeting.

Motion by Alderperson, Van Blaricom; seconded by Council President, Strobusch to approve all minutes as presented.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Motion carried.

Public Comment: None at this time.

Department Head/Officer Reports: The following Department Head/Officer Reports were read: City Administrator; Police Chief; Department of Public Works; Fire Chief; City Clerk-Treasurer.

The following Committee Reports were read: Plan Commission; Public Works; Parks & Recreation; Finance/Personnel and Public Safety and Welfare. It was noted that there were no meetings with Public Works and Public Safety to report.

Recommendation: Discussion/Action – From the Parks and Recreation Committee for Approval of (2) Seasonal RV Sites at North Park RV Campground to include 1 for Campground Host(s).

Motion by Alderperson, Van Blaricom to approve converting 2 of the campground sites to seasonal sites and include 1 for the Campground Host(s). Cost will be \$450 per month and all campers must vacate by October 31st. Motion seconded by Council President, Strobusch.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Motion carried.

Recommendation: Discussion/Action – From the Plan Commission for approval of George Risberg & Megan Sondreal Fence Height Request on their property located at 228 W. Maple Street. They are asking for a 6-foot fence variance on the front of their property. The property line and setbacks will be followed as well as the type of fence required in the City of Amery Code of Ordinances.

Motion by Alderperson, Riemenschneider; seconded by Alderperson, Flanum to approve the fence variance for George Risberg & Megan Sondreal for a 6-foot fence on the front of their property located at 228 W. Maple Street. The property line and setbacks will be followed as well as the type of fence required in the City of Amery Code of Ordinances.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Motion carried.

Recommendation: Discussion/Action – From the Plan Commission for approval of Partner Properties, LLC 2 Lot Certified Survey Map. The property was divided and surveyed by Ed Flanum, Surveyor.

Motion by Alderperson, Riemenschneider; seconded by Alderperson, Vicker to approve Partner Properties, LLC 2 Lot Certified Survey Map for division of that lot.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Motion carried.

Recommendation: Discussion/Action – From the Finance & Personnel Committee for Pickle Ball Court Expenses Reimbursed to Dennis John in the amount of \$95.55.

Motion by Council President, Strohbusch; seconded by Alderperson, Van Blaricom to approve reimbursement of pickle ball court expenses in the amount of \$95.55 to Dennis John.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Motion carried.

Recommendation: Discussion/Action – From the Finance & Personnel Committee for Call-Out Pay for Public Works Employees for Storms, Snowplowing, Etc. The pay would be \$2.00 per hour for special situations related to emergencies for Public Works as long as it is not abused. The request also was that time used for those emergencies not be considered as their PTO time taken off.

Motion by Council President, Strohbusch to table the discussion until such time as City Administrator, Moore has looked into what emergencies are necessary for call-out and what would constitute the appropriateness of those situations. The discussion will take place at a future Finance & Personnel Committee meeting. Motion seconded by Alderperson, Van Blaricom.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Motion carried.

Recommendation: Discussion/Action – From the Finance & Personnel Committee for Management Analyst/Deputy Clerk Position. The discussion took place regarding an offer to hire Benjamin Jansen for the position of Management Analyst/Deputy Clerk. All background checks and other reference checks were performed. The rate of pay has been discussed and will be implemented.

Motion by Council President, Strohbusch to offer the position of Management Analyst/Deputy Clerk to Benjamin Jansen with a start date of August 19, 2019. The wage negotiated will be offered. Motion seconded by Alderperson, Fl anum.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Motion carried.

Recommendation: Discussion/Action – From the Finance & Personnel Committee for RFP for Assessor Services. City Clerk-Treasurer, Bjorklund presented to the Finance & Personnel Committee a RFP for Assessor Services for a Property Assessor for Property Tax Purposes. She would like to submit as soon as possible and get responses. The current Assessor, Barbara Zempel is not renewing her contract for 2020. The city will need a total revaluation in 2020 and the work needs to begin on that process.

Motion by Alderperson, Van Blaricom to direct City Clerk-Treasurer, Bjorklund to send out RFP's for Assessor Services to qualified Assessors. Motion seconded by Alderperson, Vicker.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Motion carried.

Recommendation: Discussion/Action – From the Finance & Personnel Committee for the 2018 Audit. City Clerk/Treasurer, Bjorklund noted that the final Audit has not been received. She was assured by the Audit Firm of CliftonLarsonAllen that the copies will arrive in the next few weeks. Finance can then review and make their recommendation at that time. The council took no action.

Discussion/Action – Mayor, Isakson wanted the council to know that he wishes to appoint Chad Leonard who lives in District 1 to fill the vacancy left by outgoing Alderperson, Rick Davis. Alderperson, Davis' term was set to expire in April of 2022. He wishes to have Mr. Leonard fulfill Alderperson, Rick Davis' term until April of 2022. The council unanimously agreed to the appointment. City Clerk-Treasurer, Bjorklund administered the

Oath of Office to Chad Leonard who will be the new Alderperson for District 1 with a term set to expire in April of 2022.

Discussion/Action – The State of Wisconsin – Department of Administration awarded the City of Amery up to \$1,000,000 for a CDBG-PF project for Keller Avenue. The city must submit to finalize the CDBG Grant Agreement from the July 19, 2019 letter a signed Acceptance of Award and submit the pre-agreement items listed as part of the agreement. Dave Rasmussen, MSA who is the CDBG Grant Project Administrator assigned to the project discussed the project. Certain compliance requirements must be met and the grant agreement must be executed prior to construction starting for the project. As part of the CDBG requirements, all CDBG project administrators are required to attend implementation training as scheduled by the division. City Administrator, Moore and City Clerk-Treasurer, Bjorklund will attend the training in Rothschild, WI mid-September. The estimate of costs for the project is just over \$2,800,000. Mr. Rasmussen noted that there are 2 other grants that will be applied for to help with the cost of the project. Principal Forgiveness is an additional subsidy, provided by the federal government, to assist municipalities that would experience significant hardship raising the revenue necessary to finance needed infrastructure projects. It helps reduce the size of a loan and would reduce annual principal and interest payments. Clean Water Fund Program (CWFP) and Safe Drinking Water Loan Program (SDWLP) loans for the full amount of funds being provided for a project, but the PF portion is forgiven at the time of disbursement. The municipal bond pledged as security for the loan only needs to cover the amount of principal that will actually be repaid.

Motion by Council President, Strohmusch to accept the award of up to \$1,000,000 from The State of Wisconsin Department of Administration for a CDBG-PF project for Keller Avenue; seconded by Alderperson, Van Blaricom.

Ayes – 6 Nays – 0 Motion carried.

Discussion/Action – Application for Fermented Malt Beverage, Liquor License and Cigarette/Tobacco License for: Freedom Valu Center #31 and Holiday #56 was discussed. Applegreen Midwest, LLC is purchasing both convenience gas stations mid-August. The licenses will be good for August 8, 2019 – June 30, 2020.

Motion by Alderperson, Riemenschneider; seconded by Alderperson, Vicker to approve Original Fermented Malt Beverage, Liquor Licenses and Cigarette/Tobacco Licenses for Freedom Valu Center #31 and Holiday #56 for new owners Applegreen Midwest, LLC for a period of August 8, 2019 – June 30, 2020.

Ayes – 6 Nays – 0 Motion carried.

Discussion/Action – Resolution #11-2019 for Conveyances of real estate for Amery Ventures, LLC and Susan Johnson and City of Amery was presented.

Motion by Alderperson, Flanum; seconded by Alderperson, Riemenschneider to approve Resolution #11-2019 for Conveyances of real estate for Amery Ventures, LLC and Susan Johnson and City of Amery.

Ayes – 6 Nays – 0 Motion carried.

Closed Session: Motion by Council President, Strohmusch; seconded by Alderperson, Riemenschneider to go into closed session proceedings at 5:50 p.m. under WI §19.85 (1) (e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session.

Roll Call Vote was conducted by City Clerk-Treasurer, Bjorklund as follows:

Ayes: Strohbusch, Riemenschneider, Van Blaricom, Vicker, Flanum, Leonard and Isakson.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Motion by Alderperson, Riemenschneider; seconded by Alderperson, Van Blaricom to come out of closed session proceedings at 6:15 p.m.

Ayes – 6

Nays – 0

Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote was conducted by City Clerk-Treasurer, Bjorklund as follows:

Ayes: Strohbusch, Riemenschneider, Van Blaricom, Vicker, Flanum, Leonard and Isakson.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Motion by Alderperson, Flanum; seconded by Alderperson, Van Blaricom to adjourn at 6:16 p.m.

Ayes – 6

Nays – 0

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Bjorklund, WCMC/CMC, CMTW
City Clerk-Treasurer
August 7, 2019